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15 July 1966

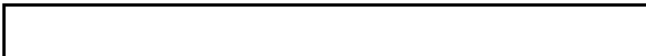
MINUTES OF SEVENTH IDEALIST CONFIGURATION EVALUATION BOARD

15 July 1966

MEMBERS PRESENT

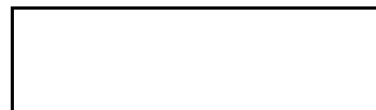


CONSULTANT PRESENT



1. A special meeting of the IDEALIST Configuration Evaluation Board was held to discuss the removal of the low altitude escape lanyard and the possibility of installing a man-seat separator in the present U-2. [redacted] presented statistics that pointed out that there is a possibility of seat chute entanglement with the lanyard connected. The statistics available did not take into consideration survivability along with entanglement or fatalities resulting from lanyard being disconnected during low altitude ejections. It was the consensus of opinion that the statistics were too inconclusive at this time to warrant removal of the lanyard.

2. The board reached the conclusion that the present U-2 handbook procedures related to the proper use of low altitude escape lanyard will be followed. This conclusion



GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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25X1A was transmitted [redacted] Standardization and
25X1 safety Officer for Project IDEALIST. It was decided to ask
DIG/Safety, [redacted] for their help in a complete analysis
of the lanyard with relation to the U-2 airspeeds, climb,
descent, etc. Upon receipt of the analysis, the board will
re-evaluate the procedures and necessity of the low altitude
escape lanyard.

3. The board determined that the most critical item
for life support is the man-seat separator. An emergency
ECP will be requested and prosecuted upon receipt.

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[redacted]
Alternate Chairman

IDEALIST Configuration Evaluation Board

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Distribution:

- #1 - D/FA/OSA
- 2 - D/SA
- 3 - IDEA/OSA
- 4 - MD/OSA
- 5 - SAS/OSA
- 6 - D/TECH/OSA
- 7 - C&FE/OSA
- 8 - PS/OSA
- 9 - SS/OSA
- 10 - ID/OSA
- 11 - CD/OSA
- 12 - AP/ORD
- 13 - ASD/OEL
- 14 - DSD/OSI
- 15 - RB/OSA
- 16 - Holdback

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